World History Essay #1

Rome

Choose a topic from the list below and write a well-supported, thoughtful essay.

* Maximum length 3 pages
* Typed and double-spaced in 12 point font with one-inch margins
* Bibliography -list of resources you use (author, title, publisher, date of publication, URL if a website.)
* Outline and Bibliography due – **Tuesday, September 13**
* Final Essay Due – **Tuesday, September 20**

**Compare the violence of entertainment in Ancient Rome to violence of entertainment in the United States today.** Support your position with historical evidence as well as modern examples for comparison. Your own analysis is very important here.

Write an essay which answers the question: **Were Brutus and Cassius justified in assassinating Julius Caesar?** Support your answer with arguments from documentary evidence, Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar, and your own reasoning.

Write an essay offering possible explanations for **the decline of Rome from a republic to a dictatorship.** Include the names of men and events that illustrate the decline.

Write an essay discussing the **Pax Romana** (31BC-AD 180). Discuss why it is called a period of peace and prosperity. Consider the birth of Christ in your analysis. Also discuss why some people say it was an “artificial peace.” You may also wish to consider whether there is or ever has been such a thing as Pax Americana.

Write an essay on the **tragedy at Masada**. Discuss the background of the event. Seek to understand and present information about why the Sicarii Zealouts committed mass suicide. Discuss whether the people there should or should not have done so.